CLAIMS

1. A golf ball retrieval device with a base adapted to be located on and secured to an upper end of a golf club shaft the retrieval device having at least two fingers projecting from the base substantially parallel to an axis running along the length of the club shaft
a resilient support being provided at the base adapted to allow each finger independently from the other finger or fingers to be movable with respect to the body so as to be able to be pivoted about the base such that an end of the respective finger distal from the base will swing outwardly and allow thereby against resilient pressure a spread of the fingers to provide a golf ball capturing space.

2. A device as in claim 1 wherein there is a shaft aligned to extend along an elongate axis of the base of the retrieval device said shaft supporting an abutment member at a forward end of the shaft so that when in a resting position this is positioned at an end distal from the base of the retrieval device.

3. A device as in claim 2 wherein there is a spring effecting a bias to urge the shaft with the abutment member into an outwardmost position relative to the base, such that when the fingers are in a closed position where this is the resting position the abutment member extends across an area between outer ends of the respective fingers.

4. A device as in claim 2 or claim 3 wherein there is a cam member slidably supported by the shaft and resiliently biased into an outwardmost position relative to the base which is inward of the said abutment member and adapted to effect when inwardly moved relative to the fingers an engagement against an inner surface of each of these fingers and effect through such engagement a further spread of the fingers.

5. A device as in claim 4 wherein there is a helical spring between the said cam and the said base.

6. The device of any of the preceding claims wherein there are three fingers symmetrically aligned about a central axis of the body of the golf ball retrieval device.

7. A putter in combination with a device as in any one of the preceding claims.

8. A putter as in claim 7 wherein the ball-retrieval device has a stem that is embedded in an end of a shaft of the putter.

9. A golf ball retrieval device having a plurality of resiliently held fingers which are shaped at their respective ends and aligned relatively one to the other such that when urged against the surface of a golf ball the fingers will be caused to spread against resilient pressure such that it will enable a golf ball to enter and be held therebetween.

10. A device as in claim 9 wherein the fingers have supported therebetween an abutment member which when the retrieval device is in a resting position extends across an area defined by ends of the fingers, which abutment member being divertable when the fingers are being urged against the surface of a golf ball.

11. A golf ball retrieval device having a plurality of ball engaging members, and an end abutment member and a base member, the ball engaging members being held in a closely adjacent configuration by resilient means, thereby forming an open ended convolute sided cup shape, wherein the end abutment member covers an otherwise open area between the ends of the fingers distal from the base member.

12. The device of claim 11 wherein the abutment member is supported by a resilient support, said support being substantially co-axial with a longer axis of the convolute sided cup shape.

13. The device of claim 12 wherein the abutment member is adapted to be pressed against a golf ball, whereby the support is deformed and the abutment member moves axially inside the convolute sided cup shape, remaining in contact with the ball, which ball comes into with the ball engaging members, which members are adapted to be forced apart by the

force transmitted by the ball allowing the ball to move in between them, said members being urged to grip the ball by the resilient means.

14. The device of claim 13 wherein the abutment member and the ball engaging members co-operate such that as the abutment member moves axially inside the convolute sided cup shape, the ball engaging members are forced further apart by the movement of the abutment member, allowing the ball to move completely between the ball engaging members, wherein the ball is held in place by the resilient means urging the ball engaging members against the ball, and by the resilient support urging the abutment member against the ball, further urging the ball against the ball engaging members.